

IESO Engagement Update

July 17, 2025

This engagement update provides a snapshot of all active IESO engagement activities. It also helps support a greater understanding of linkages between engagements, and a foundation for more comprehensive and integrated updates. For the most up-to-date information, visit the individual engagement links or the [Engagement Initiatives](#) web page



Forecasting and Planning

Engagements to support provincial and regional electricity planning over the next 20 years.

Active Engagements	Current Status	Next Steps
<p><u>Bulk Planning – Northern Ontario Bulk Study</u></p> <p>This engagement will seek input from stakeholders and communities on the Northern Ontario Bulk Study initiative.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead:</i> Abby Dancey</p> <p><i>Community Engagement Leads:</i> Nadia Mirabelli</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement continues with interested members of the sector on the development of a Northern Ontario Bulk Study. Feedback from these public sessions is posted on the engagement webpage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final report will be posted in 2025.
<p><u>Bulk Planning – North of Sudbury</u></p> <p>The bulk plan will examine the capability of the bulk transmission system's ability to supply increasing levels of demand in the areas surrounding Timmins, Kirkland Lake, and Pinard. The study will also look at creating opportunities to potentially</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The plan was introduced at the May 29th Quarterly Bulk Planning update. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The IESO will continue to engage at the appropriate milestones.

locate new non-emitting resources in the area, as well as the potential for new or upgraded interconnections with Quebec.

*Engagement Lead: **Abby***

Dancey *Community Engagement*

Leads:

Northern Ontario Connection Study

This study will develop options to connect remote First Nations communities to the grid that currently rely on diesel generators for electricity, improve reliability for First Nation communities that are already grid-connected, support critical minerals mining development in the region, and enable the development of new hydro and renewable resources. The study was initiated in response to a request from the government of Ontario, and a final report will be released in the early Fall.

*Engagement Lead: **Abby Dancey***

Community Engagement Leads:

Bulk Planning – South and Central Ontario Bulk Study

This engagement will seek input from stakeholders and communities on the South and Central Ontario Bulk Study initiative.

*Engagement Lead: **Abby***

Dancey *Community Engagement*

*Leads: **Keir Johnston***

- On May 7th, a webinar was held to review the technical and economic option analysis; 75 participants in attendance.
 - The IESO will provide responses to submitted feedback, and will include messaging for the rationale for no further engagement
 - Final report is tracking for release in September.
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- Engagement continues with interested members of the sector on the development of a South and Central Bulk Study.
 - A webinar was hosted on May 29 to share updates about the study.
 - Feedback from these public sessions will be posted on the engagement webpage.

Bulk Planning – Eastern Ontario Bulk Study

This engagement will seek input from stakeholders and communities on the Eastern Ontario Bulk Study initiative.

*Engagement Lead: **Abby Dancey***

- Engagement continues with interested members of the sector on the development of an Eastern Ontario Bulk Study.
- Engagement continues in 2025.

<p><i>Community Engagement Leads:</i> Nadia Mirabelli</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A webinar was hosted on May 29 to share updates about the study. • Feedback from these public sessions will be posted on the engagement webpage. 	
<p><u>Regional Planning – Burlington to Nanticoke</u> Regional electricity planning is underway in this region. <i>Engagement Lead: Jessica Singh</i> <i>Indigenous Relations Lead: Keir Johnston</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This engagement is complete. The IESO response to feedback and final IRRP report was posted on November 28 and shared via email with participants subscribed to receive updates. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement on the Hamilton Addendum will take place in 2025.
<p><u>Regional Planning – Ottawa Area Sub-Region</u> Regional electricity planning is underway in this region. <i>Engagement Lead: Jessica Singh</i> <i>Indigenous Relations Lead: Nadia Mirabelli</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A webinar was held on June 9 to share the options analysis and draft recommendations and to seek feedback. • Written comments were accepted until July 2. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IRRP and IESO Response to Feedback will be posted by the end of July.
<p><u>Regional Planning – Kitchener/Waterloo/Cambridge/Guelph (KWCG)</u> Regional electricity planning is underway in this region. <i>Engagement Lead: Brooke Crewson</i> <i>Indigenous Relations Lead: Keir Johnston</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A webinar was held on May 27 to present identified electrical infrastructure with priority needs and potential options to address them. • Feedback received as of June 17, 2025 has been posted on the engagement page and responses are being prepared. Written comments were accepted until June 17. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As regional planning advances engagement will continue with respect to developing an IRRP for this region until Q1 2026.

<p><u>Regional Planning – Toronto</u> Regional electricity planning is underway in this region. <i>Engagement Lead: Samantha Polito</i> <i>Indigenous Relations Lead: Keir Johnston</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A webinar was held on December 5 to share the draft regional electricity needs that have been identified based on the forecast scenarios and to seek feedback. • Feedback was accepted until January 3 and the IESO response to feedback has been posted on the engagement webpage. • A webinar was hosted on July 10 to share the screening of options and seek feedback. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement for the Toronto area IRRP will continue through 2025 with an Options Evaluation and Draft Recommendations Webinar in September.
<p><u>Regional Planning – GTA North (York Region)</u> Regional electricity planning is underway in this region. <i>Engagement Lead: Chiara Cozzi</i> <i>Indigenous Relations Lead: Nadia Mirabelli</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A webinar was held on November 26 to share the draft forecast scenarios and to seek feedback. • Feedback was accepted until December 17 and the IESO response to feedback has been posted on the engagement page. • A webinar was hosted on July 8 to share the region's needs and the screening of options, and to seek feedback. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback for the July 8 webinar will be accepted until July 29. • Engagement on this IRRP will continue through 2025.
<p><u>Regional Planning – GTA East</u> Regional electricity planning is underway this region. <i>Engagement Lead: Jessica Singh</i> <i>Indigenous Relations Lead: Keir Johnston</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The final Scoping Assessment Outcome Report was posted on April 25. • A webinar was hosted on July 16 to share the draft demand forecast and engagement plan, and to seek feedback. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IESO will seek feedback on the draft demand forecast and engagement plan.
<p><u>Regional Planning – GTA West</u> Regional electricity planning is underway this region. <i>Engagement Lead: Samantha Polito</i> <i>Indigenous Relations Lead: Keir Johnston</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IESO held a webinar on June 2 to share the draft demand forecast. • Feedback was accepted until June 23. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IESO will post a response to feedback in Q3 2025 • Engagement will continue in 2025 with a public webinar to share the Options Screening.

<p><u>Regional Planning – East Lake Superior</u></p> <p>Regional electricity planning is underway this region.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead:</i> Jessica Singh</p> <p><i>Indigenous Relations Lead:</i> Keir Johnston</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IESO’s response to feedback received and the final Scoping Assessment Outcome Report was posted on January 9, 2025. • A webinar was hosted on July 9 to share the draft demand forecast and engagement plan, and to seek feedback. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement on this IRRP will continue through 2025.
<p><u>Regional Planning – Peterborough and Kingston</u></p> <p>Regional electricity planning is underway this region.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead:</i> Brooke Crewson</p> <p><i>Indigenous Relations Lead:</i> Keir Johnston</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The final Scoping Assessment Outcome Report and IESO’s response to feedback received was posted on April 28. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement on this IRRP will continue through to Q4 2026.
<p><u>Regional Planning – London Area</u></p> <p>Regional electricity planning is underway this region.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead:</i> Chiara Cozzi</p> <p><i>Indigenous Relations Lead:</i> Keir Johnston</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The final Scoping Assessment Outcome Report and IESO’s response to feedback received was posted on April 28. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement on this IRRP will continue through 2025.
<p><u>Regional Planning – North of Dryden Addendum</u></p> <p>Regional electricity planning is underway in this sub-region.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead:</i> Samantha Polito</p> <p><i>Indigenous Relations Lead:</i> Keir Johnston</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The North of Dryden Addendum study is underway and will be published as an Addendum to the 2023 Northwest IRRP. • Public engagement was held on May 7th to share the demand forecasts, needs, and options screening. The IESO received feedback from participants. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IESO response to feedback will be posted in Q3 2025. • The IESO will host a final webinar on July 30 to share the Options Evaluation and Draft Recommendations.

Resource Acquisition

Engagements to ensure we have the tools and processes to acquire the resources we need to maintain a reliable and efficient system.

Active Engagement	Current Status	Next Steps
<p><u>Capacity Auction Enhancements</u></p> <p>The annual Capacity Auction is one of the procurement mechanisms included in the IESO’s Resource Adequacy Framework and serves as the short-term balancing mechanism in the framework, securing the capacity required to meet Ontario’s short-term resource adequacy needs.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Maia Chase</i></p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource Adequacy • Demand Side Vision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A public engagement session was held on June 26 to provide an update on the tie-break methodology and proposed market rule changes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback from the session will be posted along with the IESO response.
<p><u>Transmitter Selection Framework</u></p> <p>The IESO is developing a Transmitter Selection Framework (TSF) to align with the Powering Ontario’s Growth report’s actions and plans, with a progress report due to the Minister by Summer 2024.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Fatema Khatun</i></p> <p><i>Community Engagement Leads: Nadia Mirabelli and Andreea Nicoara</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An engagement session was held on June 25 to summarize feedback from the April 22 session and to present the final TSF Registry program rules and next steps for the registry launch. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback from the June 25 session is due on July 16. • The TSF registry will be launched before August 15.

Active Engagement	Current Status	Next Steps
<p><u>Distributed Energy Resources (DER) Roadmap</u></p> <p>The IESO is seeking feedback on the development of a roadmap to set out approaches and expected timing for enhancing DER participation in the IESO-administered markets for the products/services they are technically capable of providing.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Jason Grbavac</i></p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint Study of DER Incentives • DER Market Vision & Design Project • DER Potential Study • Enabling Resources Program • Hybrid Integration Project • IESO York Region Non-Wires Alternatives Demonstration Project • Resource Adequacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IESO and OEB are preparing to publish the DER Compensation Study in Q3 2025. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A public information session will be scheduled in August.
<p><u>Enabling Resources Program</u></p> <p>The revised Enabling Resources Program (ERP) is an integrated set of projects that will enable emerging resources to provide required system services and contribute to the safe and reliable operation of the bulk power system in Ontario. The first ERP project will incorporate electricity storage, and hybrid generation-storage pairings into the IESO-administered markets, tools, and processes.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Jason Grbavac</i></p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ERP - Storage and Hybrid Integration Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ERP is comprised of two projects which will be engaged on separately to provide the appropriate level of focus and technical discussion for each design. • The two projects are Storage and Co-located Hybrid and Distributed Energy Resource Integration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The next ERP engagement session will focus on the Storage and Co-located Hybrid Integration project and will take place on July 24.

Long-Term RFPs

The IESO is engaging stakeholders and communities on the development of a series of Long-Term RFPs that will seek resources to address needs.

Engagements targeted to communities and the broader public are underway.

Engagement Leads: **Trisha Hickson**

Community Engagement Leads: **Sonia Fazari and Abby Dancey**

Related Engagements:

- [Resource Adequacy](#)
- [Hybrid Integration Project](#)
- [Market Renewal Program \(MRP\) Implementation](#)

Stakeholder Engagement:

- A webinar was held on May 21st to review the updates to the contracts and RFP.
- Feedback was requested by May 29, and all feedback is posted on the LT RFP webpage. A response to feedback will be posted in June.

Community Engagement:

- On July 17, a 2-part webinar for municipalities and communities was held with the goal to build understanding about the parts of the RFP that require their involvement in the process. Part two provided targeted meetings for both groups, allowing for more detailed discussions and for questions to be asked of IESO, and of participating ministries.

Stakeholder Engagement:

- A joint engagement webinar was held on June 25 with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness (OMAFRA) and the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) to provide an overview of key requirements ahead of proposal submission deadlines.
- An engagement webinar was held on July 10 to provide an update following the posting of the final RFPs, Contracts, and Prescribed Forms. Additional questions will be accepted via a formal Question and Comment period.

Community Engagement:

- The RCE team has developed an engagement strategy to support municipalities through the first window of the RFP (opened at the end of June, closes in October).
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Active Engagement	Current Status	Next Steps
<p><u>Medium-Term RFP</u></p> <p>The IESO is engaging stakeholders on the development of a second Medium-Term RFP (MT2) aimed at re-committing resources with contracts expiring between 2026-2029 to secure Ontario's future energy needs.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead:</i> Fatema Khatun</p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <p>Long-Term RFP</p> <p>Resource Adequacy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IESO has now concluded the evaluation of Proposals for the MT2 RFP. • Additional information is provided in the Results Table. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IESO has now concluded the second medium-term procurement and has executed a total of 46 Energy and Capacity contracts.
<p><u>Request for Information – Resource Adequacy Framework</u></p> <p>The IESO is requesting information from existing resource owners whose contracts expire within the next ten years, as well as developers interested in future projects.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead:</i> Fatema Khatun</p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <p>Long-Term RFP</p> <p>Resource Adequacy</p> <p>Medium-Term RFP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An information session was held during September engagement days to explain how the IESO will gather insights to help inform future energy supply procurements in Ontario. • RFI closed on November 1. • A summary of RFI findings was posted on the engagement webpage on April 16. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The closing summary for this engagement will be posted in August.
<p><u>Long Lead-Time Resource Procurement</u></p> <p>The IESO is engaging on the proposed Long Lead-Time Resources procurement. This procurement is part of the IESO's broader Resource Adequacy Framework – an enduring approach to identifying the type of acquisition activity to use to resolve system needs.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead:</i> Trisha Hickson</p> <p><i>Community Engagement Leads:</i> Abby Dancey</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IESO hosted an engagement session on June 5 to discuss considerations related to the design of a LLT resource procurement • Feedback was accepted until June 17 and is posted to the LLT webpage. Response to feedback will be posted in July. • Community Engagement: A webinar was held on May 27, 2025, for Indigenous Communities and municipalities to introduce the Long Lead-Time Resource Procurement and understand feedback. Feedback was accepted until June 17, 2025 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next public Engagement session will be determined following the report back to government due in July.

Active Engagement	Current Status	Next Steps
<p><u>Local Generation Program</u></p> <p>The IESO is engaging stakeholders on a proposal to establish a program that will enable re-contracting of existing resources, and consider opportunities for expansions and new build facilities</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Maia Chase</i></p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <p>Long-Term RFP</p> <p>Request for Information – Resource Adequacy Framework</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A public engagement session was held on June 5 to provide a summary of the feedback received and continue discussions on the design of the program. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder feedback from the session along with IESO response will be posted on the IESO website.
<p><u>Electricity Demand Side Management (eDSM) Framework</u></p> <p>The IESO is engaging on the new 12-year electricity Demand Side Management Framework, the first 3-year plan and future program opportunities</p> <p><i>Engagement Leads: Jamie Jang</i></p> <p><i>Related Engagements</i></p> <p>Resource Adequacy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A public engagement session was held on June 24 to provide an overview of the proposed program design elements of the new Commercial HVAC Demand Response Program. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback and the IESO response to feedback will be posted on the engagement page.

Operations

Engagements to ensure that Ontario's electricity resources are operating reliably within the IESO-administered market, while also undertaking continuous market improvements.

Active Engagement	Current Status	Next Steps
<p><u>Market Renewal Program (MRP) Implementation</u></p> <p>The Implementation phase of the Market Renewal Program will begin by codifying the design into the Market Rules and Market Manuals, and then proceed onto creating tools, testing, training, and readiness</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A public information session was held on April 16 to discuss final preparations for the launch of the renewed market and the cutover period. Another public information followed on June 4 to provide an update on the transition to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Future sessions will be scheduled on additional topics. If Market Participants have any questions relating to the renewed market, Market Participants can contact IESO's Customer Response at customer.relations@ieso.ca.

<p>for bringing the renewed market to life.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Jamie Jang</i></p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource Adequacy • Enabling Resources • DER Market Vision & Design Project <p>Hybrid Integration</p>	<p>and initial operation of the renewed market.</p>	
<p><u>IESO Market Rule Amendments, Chapter 3, Confidentiality, Dispute Resolution and Enforcement</u></p> <p>The Market Assessment and Compliance Division (MACD) of the IESO is proposing amendments to Chapter 3 of the Market Rules. The purpose of these proposed changes is to modernize and clarify rules related to some of MACD's enforcement processes, including confidentiality and how it handles disputes under the IESO Dispute Resolution Process.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Trisha Hickson</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A webinar was held in February 2024 to discuss the proposed market rule amendments and feedback received from the November 2023 session. • Feedback following the February 6 engagement webinar is available on the engagement webpage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MACD is continuing to undertake stakeholder engagement and outreach to seek further feedback.
<p><u>Updates to IESO Monitoring Requirements Phasor Data</u></p> <p>The IESO proposes to update Market Rule Appendices 4.15 and 4.16 to clarify requirements for generators and transmitters to install phasor technology infrastructure and provide phasor data to the IESO. The proposed changes are intended to align with requirements in other North American ISOs and RTOs. The IESO is seeking feedback from stakeholders on these proposed updates in Market Rule Appendices 4.15 and 4.16.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Maia Chase</i></p>	<p>An engagement session was held on June 26 to present a proposal to amend Market Rules to expand the requirement for synchrophasor data to include Electricity Storage facilities. It also covered the associated changes to the Market Manual and update on the current PMU registration and connection process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholder feedback was due on July 10 and will be posted along with the IESO response on the website later in July.

Sector Evolution

Engagements that look to the future to see how innovation, innovative technologies and new collaborations can improve how we conduct our business.

Active Engagement	Current Status	Next Steps
<p><u>Future Clean Electricity Fund</u></p> <p>Proceeds from the sale of IESO-owned Clean Energy Credits on the Ontario’s Clean Energy Credit Registry will be directed to Ontario’s Future Clean Electricity Fund. The IESO has been tasked by the Ministry with developing insights and recommendations for a Future Clean Electricity Fund (FCEF).</p> <p><i>Engagement Leads: Fatema Khatun</i></p> <p><i>Community Engagement Leads: Sonia Fazari and Andreea Nicoara</i></p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clean Energy Credits	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Outreach meetings were held in October and November with municipalities to understand insights and recommendations to develop the Fund.• The IESO recommendations report was submitted to the Ministry of Energy in December 2023.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The IESO will work with the Ministry of Energy and Mines to determine how proceeds from the Future Clean Electricity Fund will be applied to upcoming procurements and infrastructure projects, as outlined in Ontario’s Integrated Energy Plan. More information will be shared soon.
<p><u>Hydrogen Interruptible Rate Pilot</u></p> <p>The Minister of Energy asked the IESO to submit a report by September 15, 2023, outlining a plan for the Hydrogen Interruptible Rate Pilot tailored specifically for hydrogen producers and developers in Ontario.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Fatema Khatun</i></p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interruptible Rate Pilot	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The IESO is currently holding one-on-one meetings with hydrogen developer organizations that expressed interest in the pilot and soliciting feedback on pilot design features that would support participation and leverage the flexibility of electrolyzer-based hydrogen production facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• IESO to submit report back to the Minister of Energy and Mines by September 30, 2025.

Updates on the Strategic Advisory Committee, Technical Panel and Transmission-Distribution Coordination Working Group

Group	Current Status	Next Steps
<p><u>Strategic Advisory Committee (SAC)</u></p> <p>The Committee is a forum for its members to be informed of IESO activities and to provide timely policy advice and feedback both broadly on behalf of the electricity sector and their constituency, directly to the IESO Board and Executive with respect to the IESO's mandate.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead:</i> Claudia Dessanti</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A public SAC meeting was held on July 16, 2025. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A recording of the July 16 meeting will be posted on the website. • The next public meeting is scheduled for October 16, 2025.
<p><u>Technical Panel (TP)</u></p> <p>The Technical Panel's mandate is to review amendments to the Market Rules for Ontario's electricity market and provide recommendations to the IESO Board of Directors.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead:</i> Trisha Hickson</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Technical Panel meeting was held on July 15. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A summary of the July 15 meeting will be posted on the website.